

## Birds of Haleakala National Park, Maui, Hawaii

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FROM 4 JULY to 29 August 1963, I was able to observe birds on the Hawaiian Islands. Most of my observations are from the Island of Maui, where I worked on a study of feral goats in Haleakala National Park.

Most of the names of locations in the National Park are shown on the map (Fig. 1) which also shows elevations. The four types of cover found in the park and their percentages are: nonvegetative, 58%; brush, 39%; grass, 2.5%; and woodland, 0.5%. I hiked at least 300 miles over this terrain; so I had an unusual opportunity to observe the birds. Detailed information on the climate is presented by Feldwisch (1941) and Yocom (1964). Vegetation and plant communities are discussed by Ruhle (1959), Schwartz and Schwartz (1949), and Yocom (1964, 1967).

The following records are those of the author and include only observations made in Haleakala or on the road to the crater.

WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD or KOAE (*Phaethon lepturus*): About a dozen sightings in Haleakala Crater, at elevations from 7,000 to 9,000 ft: 10 July, 1 on way to Haleakala; 16 July, 1 pair on west side of Kaupo Gap near cliff (possible nesting here); 31 July, 1 in flight near Paliku Pali; 6 August, 5 at Paliku; 8 August, 1 in flight over Paliku.

NENE or HAWAIIAN GOOSE (*Branta sandvicensis*): In 1962 several Nene were brought to a holding pen near Paliku Cabin, at about 7,000 ft elevation. These birds were allowed to fly from their holding pen as soon as new primaries developed after all old primaries were plucked from one wing. My observations are of Nene that were released in 1962. After 29 other Nene were brought in on 30 July 1963 and placed in the holding pen, birds from the release of 1962 returned to the immediate area. On 11

July, 1 seen flying east of Paliku; 15 July, 1 heard in morning at Paliku; 30 July, 2 flying near Paliku; 6 August, 1 female, which had been seen Oct. 1, 1962, now at pens; 7 August 1963, 3 now back at pens; 8 August, 5 now back at pens; as many as 10 seen a few days later.

AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER or KOLEA (*Pluvialis dominica*): The first plover was seen on 3 August, below Haleakala Headquarters in grassland. Other observations include the following: 12 and 13 August, 4 seen by Jim Lindsey along park road; 14 August, 2 along park road; 15 August, 10 in one flock along park road; 18 August, 6 in Haleakala Ranch lands; 22 August, 10 flushed from flat on top of Waikekeehia Kuike; 23 August, 12 flushed from lava between ancient Hawaiian trail and Silversword Loop; 23 August, 1 seen, others heard near Silversword Loop.

SHORT-EARED OWL or PUEO (*Asio flammeus*): This owl is an active hunter in the grasslands of Haleakala and was noted to sail much like a Buteo hawk over the palis. On 11 July, 4 seen at Paliku; 12 July, 1 on pali above Paliku; 15 July, 1 (blond or light tan) flying over cliff at Paliku, 1 feeding back of Paliku cabin; 16 July, 1 on west pali of Kaupo Gap; 18 July, 1 mewing as it circled Paliku area; 31 July, 2 (1 blond and 1 with blond feathers in wing) at Paliku; 1 August, 1 in Kaupo Gap; 3 August, 1 in grassland, Haleakala Ranch.

APAPANE (*Himatione sanguinea*): My observations were all in the rainforest area near Paliku. On 11 July, 5 + near Paliku; 12 July, 12-14 in Kipahulu Gap; 13 July, 3 in Kaupo Gap; 16 July, 2 feeding on red bloom of ohia tree in Kaupo Gap; 18 July, 2 in Kaupo Gap; 31 July, 1 feeding in mamane trees (yellow blooms), 1 juvenile at Paliku; 1 August, 1 adult and 1 juvenile feeding on mamane bloom; 8 August, 5 near Paliku; 21 August, 2 + at

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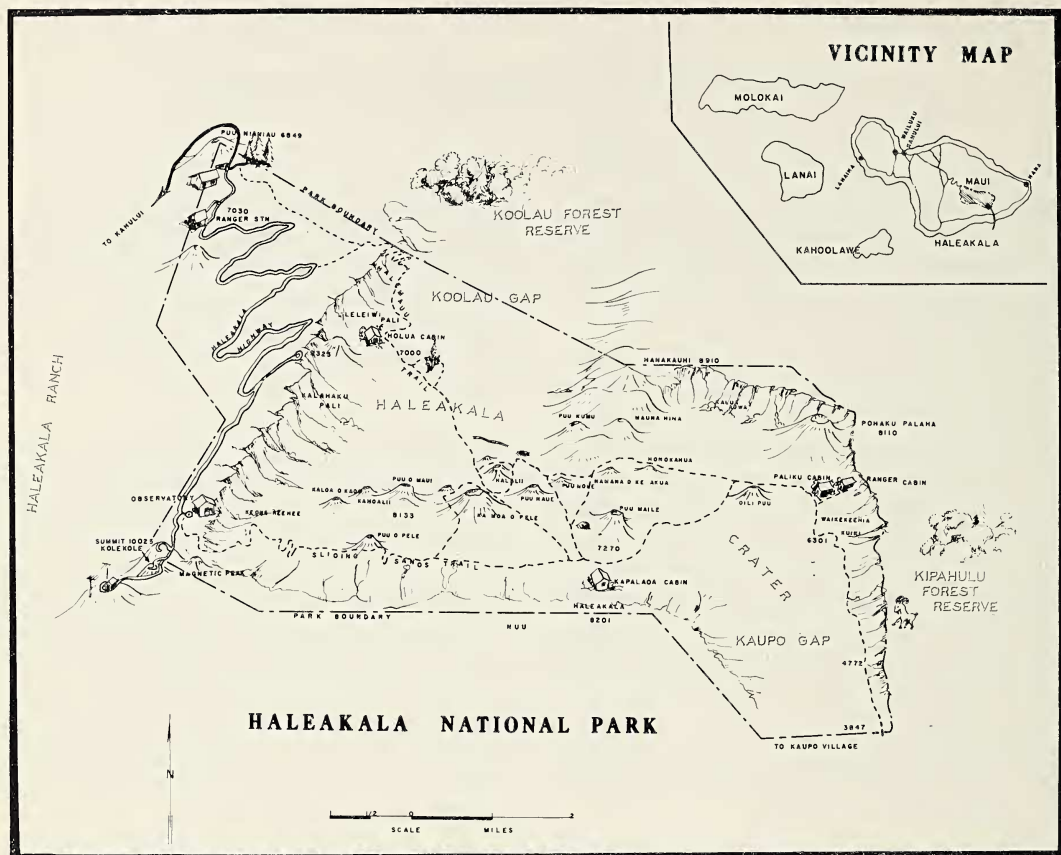


FIG. 1. Map of Haleakala National Park, Maui, Hawaii.

Paliku; 2 adults and 1 juvenile in wooded draw along Paliku Trail.

**IWI** (*Vestiaria coccinea*): This vermilion bird with black wings and tail is listed as very rare on Maui. I saw 4 in the rainforest area of Kipahulu and near Paliku. On 10 July, 1 at Paliku; 12 July, 2 in Kipahulu Gap; 1 August, 1 in a grove of ohia trees about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the way up pali back of Paliku cabin.

**AMAKIHI** (*Loxops virens*): This small native greenish bird with no eye ring was seen in about the same areas as the Apapane and the Iiwi. On 10 July, 1 at Paliku; 12 July, 1 at Paliku cabin, and 3 + at Kipahulu Gap; 13 July, 1 seen carrying food to young along fern lined goat trail on pali, 1 at Kaupo Gap; 14 July, one at Kaupo Gap; 18 July, 1 adult and

2 young near Paliku cabin, 3 at Kaupo Gap; 31 July, 1 in Paliku area; 1 August, 1 feeding on mamane bloom at Paliku; 22 August, 1 in wooded draw south of Paliku cabin.

**CALIFORNIA QUAIL** (*Lophortyx californicus*): This introduced species was seen several times near Haleakala Headquarters, but none in the crater. The highest elevation at which I observed this species was 8,500 ft, on the Haleakala Rim Road, above the Park Headquarters on 18 August.

**CHUKAR** (*Alectoris graeca*): Many Chukars were seen on the floor of Haleakala Crater and on the pali, as high as 10,000 ft elevation. On 10 July, much sign; 16 July, heard calling from west pali of Kaupo Gap; 19 July, several heard calling from Holua cabin; 20 July, 21 near

Holua cabin, 2-weeks-old young seen near bracken fern, several heard calling from pali; 22 July, 1 female and 3 chicks (3½ weeks old) near Holua cabin; 26 July, 4 on rim of pali, Paliku, much sign along rim of Paliku (dusting bowls, droppings); 29 July, several heard calling in night at Kapalaoa cabin; 30 July, nest found (13 hatched eggs) east side of bunch grass, 150 yards out on floor of crater; 1 female and 7 young (4 weeks old) seen in wash south of Holua cabin; 2 August, 2 adults and 13 (half-grown) young on trail 2 miles from Paliku, also 1 adult and 11 young (one-third grown); 7 August, 6 on pali east of Paliku.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT (*Phasianus colchicus*): This bird seems well adapted to the mezic flora of Haleakala and was flushed from all of the palis. On 10 July, tracks seen near Paliku; 11 July, 2 at Paliku; 14 July, 1 near Kaupo Gap; 16 July, 1 pair flushed from Kaupo Gap, 2 males calling from Kaupo Gap, 3 flushed from Kaupo Gap, 1 female seen near cabin; 18 July, two males at Kaupo Gap; 21 July, 1 heard calling near Holua cabin; 31 July, 1 flew from 1,000 ft above to floor of Paliku; 2 August, 2 on crater floor; 7 August, 4 at Paliku; 21 August, 1 female and 2 young (half-grown) 1 mile from Paliku in Kaupo Gap; 22 August, 1 in Kaupo Gap.

SKYLARK (*Alda arvensis*): Often seen high on the mountain rim and in the crater. On 10 July, 1 or more on way in to Haleakala; 20 July, 2 or 3 near Holua cabin, 1 calling as it flew over Holua cabin; 2 August, 2 near Kapalaoa Trail fork; 3 August, 25 + in grasslands, Haleakala Ranch on park road; 2 July, 1 on rim of Paliku.

RED-BILLED LEIOTHRIX (*Leiothrix lutea*): This introduced bird has adjusted to the rainy area in the National Park and was seen frequently near Paliku at over 7,000 ft elevation. On 10 July, some near Paliku cabin; 11 July, 4 or more at Paliku, 2 or more at Kaupo Gap; 12 July, heard singing; 13 July, 6 at Kaupo Gap; 18 July, individuals heard singing at Paliku, 2 at Kaupo Gap, 4 at Kaupo Gap; 18

July, 5 (1 carrying food) at Kaupo Gap; 29 July, 1 singing 1 mile west of Kapalaoa cabin; 31 July, heard singing in Paliku area; 20 August 1963, heard singing in Paliku area.

MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos*): This species is commonly seen at lower elevations outside the park. I assumed that the following sightings were of one bird that used a shrub-grass association, located on the floor of Haleakala Crater, at over 7,000 ft elevation. On 10 July, near Oili Puu; 2 August, near Kapalaoa Fork in Kipuka of Alii, mamane trees, mountain pilo, pukiawi, bracken fern, evening primrose, and grasses; 9 August, 2 miles from Paliku.

INDIAN MYNA (*Acridotheres tristis*): Although this is a common bird at lower elevations, the only one I saw in the park was observed feeding in a pasture at the base of Halemau Trail, on 20 July.

JAPANESE WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops japonica*): This species appeared to be distributed over much of the park. On 10 July, 1 near Puu Naue; 11 July, several near Kaupo Gap; 12 July, 5 at Paliku, 5 in grassy glade near Kaupo Gap; 13 July, several near Kaupo Gap; 14 July, several near Kaupo Gap; 18 July, several near Kaupo Gap, 20 or more (1 carrying food) near Kaupo Gap; 29 July, 1 seen 1.9 mile from Kapalaoa cabin; 31 July, several in Paliku area; 30 July, several in wash east of Kapalaoa cabin; 2 August, 2 near Kapalaoa Trail fork; 20 August, 2 in Kaupo Gap; 22 August, 2 in Kaupo Gap.

RICEBIRD (*Lonchura punctulata*): Only one ricebird was seen in the park, on 10 July, at Paliku.

HOUSE FINCH (*Carpodacus mexicanus*): Common in the park. By mid-July and August large flocks frequented the floor of the crater at 7,000 or more ft elevation. On 10 July, none noted at Paliku; 11 July, 2 seen at Paliku; 13 and 18 July, several at Kaupo Gap; 30 July, several in Kapalaoa area; 2 August, 150–200



along trail in mamane trees east of Puu o Pele; 20 August, several in Kaupo Gap; 22 August, 50 + near Paliku; 26 July, 2 on rim of Paliku; 29 July, 1 on rim of Sliding Sands Trail.

Other birds seen in the islands, but not in or near Haleakala National Park, included: Common Gallinule or Alae Ula (*Gallinula chloropus*) in a freshwater pond at Barber's Point, Oahu; American Coot or Alae Keokeo (*Fulica americana*) in a pond near highway between Kahului and Haleakala; Ruddy Turnstone or Akekeke (*Arenaria interpres*) at Maalaea, Maui; Black-Necked Stilt or Aeo (*Himantopus mexicanus*) in pond near Kahului; Hawaiian Hawk or Io (*Buteo solitarius*) at Kilauea and Kona, Hawaii; Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*), Barred Dove (*Goepelia striata*), House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), and Cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis*), all at lower elevations.

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